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- 1. SECRETARY LAIRD IS DISPATCHING COLONEL DAVID FARNHAM AND COLONEL DONALD S. MARSHALL ON A SURVEY TRIP TO VIETNAM TO ASSESS THE SITUATION ON HIS BEHALF AND REPORT DIRECTLY TO HIM UPON THEIR RETURN. BOTH COLONELS ARE PRESENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE. WORD OF THEIR MISSION HAS BEEN RELAYED IN MILITARY CHANNELS BY A MESSAGE SENT EXPLICITLY ON SECRETARY LAIRD'S BEHALF BY ADMIRAL MOORER TO ADMIRAL MCCAIN AND GENERAL ABRAMS. THE TWO COLONELS WILL ARRIVE ON OR ABOUT 20 JUNE. THEIR CHARTER IS QUITE BROAD AND ENCOMPASSES THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE PLUS A VARIETY OF MATTERS RELATED TO THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION, ARVN LEADERSHIP AND THE STATUS OF THE VCI.
- 2. BOTH COLONELS ARE BRIGHT, PERCEPTIVE, HAVE LONG, FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE IN VIETNAMESE MATTERS AND (FORTUNATELY) ARE

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